

## Proclamation

##HEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

#HEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

**\*\*\*HEREAS**, 2020 is the 148<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the holiday and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

##HEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and

\*\*#HEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

**∌**OW THEREFORE, I, Geoffrey Thomas, do hereby recognize April 24, 2020 as

## ARBOR DAY

and encourage our community to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the wellbeing of this and future generations.

Geof**i**rey T<mark>homas, Mayor</mark>